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Preliminary Amendment Accompanying
Substitute Specification

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the previous Abstract with the following redlined Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for distributing encryption keys in WLAN, ~~said method that~~ combines a key distribution process with an authentication process of ~~the~~ mobile hosts and utilizes an authentication server or a wireless gateway to manage key distribution, so that mobile hosts can roam in a scope larger than the coverage area of the key management server. Because the key distribution ~~doesn't involve transmitting~~ does not transmit the key, which is not encrypted via the air interface, the method ensures the key is safe. In addition, ~~said the method doesn't depend on specific authentication modes, so it can be used under different kinds of WLAN protocols. Finally, because~~ Because the AP ~~doesn't~~ does not need to manage user information, the method simplifies AP structure, and thus lowers the cost.